THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR):

(a) The existing guidelines for licensing of steel units in the private sector do not provide for the setting up of composite steel plants. These guidelines are under review.

(b) and (c) The establishment of additional steel making capacity in the country will lead to a reduction in imports of steel.

Auction of plots by the DDA

*267. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the replies to Starred Question 229 and Unstarred Question 1722 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st August, 1986 and 21st November, 1986, respectively and state:

(a) whether the possession of the seventeen plots at Kalkaji Road has since been handed over to the successful bidders by the DDA;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the plots are likely to be handed over to successful bidders?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): a) No, Sir.

(b) The stay order given by the Court is still in force.

(c) The possession of the plots will be handed over after the stay order is vacated.

Capacity utilization by the industries based on fruits etc.

*268. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the industries based on fruits and vegetables have not been able to work to their full capacity;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the estimated number of such industries existing as on 1st July, 1987 in the country; and

(d) what steps are being taken to extend full assistance to these industries by Government?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. not to their full installed capacity. The main reasons for this are:

(i) seasonal nature of the industry;

(ii) low domestic demand; and

(iii) incompetitive position in foreign markets.

(c) As on 1.7.87, the total number of fruit and vegetable processing units licensed under the Fruit Products Order was 2527. In addition, there are 526 units which are not themselves manufacturing fruit and vegetable products but are only relabelling and selling products of others.

(d) The important measures taken to promote the deveopment of fruit and vegetable processing industry are given in the attached statement.

Statement

Fruit and Vegetable processing industry :

(i) Requirement of industrial licensing under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act has been dispensed with except in certain cases.